

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 184916
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-01 ONY-00 SS-15 /027 R

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184916

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SY, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO ASSAD FROM CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS

1. IN PARAGRAPH 3 BELOW IS THE TEXT OF A MESSAGE TO ASSAD
SIGNED BY SOME OF THE SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN WHO HAVE
VISITED SYRIA. WE PROVIDED SUGGESTED TEXT TO SOLARZ, AS
IN THE FEBRUARY EPISODE, AND WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE
TO SEE TO ITS DELIVERY TO ASSAD.

2. WITH CONGRESS ABOUT TO GO INTO RECESS, IT HAS BEEN
PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT IN GETTING SIGNATURES FROM SENATORS.
SOLARZ'S OFFICE BELIEVES THAT SENATORS MATHIAS AND
EAGLETON WILL SIGN, ALONG WITH OTHERS, BUT WOULD BE WILLING
TO LET YOU DELIVER CABLED TEXT IF YOU BELIEVE IT WOULD BE
HELPFUL AT THIS JUNCTURE. WE WILL POUCH ACTUAL MESSAGE TO
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YOU EARLY NEXT WEEK.

3. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE PAID VISITS TO SYRIA SINCE THE
RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO
COUNTRIES. SOME OF US HAVE BEEN HONORED WITH MEETINGS

WITH YOU AND ALL OF US HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITIES TO DISCUSS
MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR GOVERNMENT.

WE ARE INTERESTED IN THE STRENGTHENING OF FRIENDLY AND
COOPERATIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

IT IS IN THAT SPIRIT THAT WE HAVE FOLLOWED WITH CLOSE
INTEREST DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING SYRIA'S JEWISH COMMUNITY.
EARLIER THIS YEAR, WE WERE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED BY THE
DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
TO ELIMINATE OR RELAX PREVIOUS REGULATIONS AFFECTING
SYRIAN JEWRY.

IN RECENT DAYS, WE HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED AND GLADDENED BY
THE DECISIONS TO PERMIT THE DEPARTURE FOR THE UNITED
STATES OF SOME MEMBERS OF THE SYRIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY FOR
PURPOSES OF MARRIAGE, EDUCATION, AND FAMILY REUNION.
THESE DECISIONS SHOW THAT SYRIA DEALS WITH THE SITUATION
OF SYRIAN JEWRY ON A VERY HUMAN AND INDIVIDUAL SCALE.

WE WISH YOU TO KNOW, MR. PRESIDENT, OF OUR GRATITUDE FOR
YOUR ROLE IN FACILITATING TIES AND COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN
SYRIA'S JEWISH COMMUNITY AND THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF
SYRIAN ORIGIN LOCATED IN THE UNITED STATES. WE HOPE THAT
THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THESE TWO COMMUNITIES--OF A COMMON
RELIGIOUS FAITH AND WITH A SHARED HERITAGE IN THEIR
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SYRIAN HOMELAND--WILL EXPAND AND FLOURISH, CONSTITUTING
ANOTHER BOND OF FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE
SYRIAN AND AMERICAN PEOPLES.

RESPECTFULLY,

SENATORS : RICHARD STONE, ADLAI STEVENSON

CONGRESSMEN: STEPHEN SOLARZ, ROBERT SIKES, HELEN MEYNER,
HENRY WAXMAN, LEE HAMILTON, BENJAMIN ROSENTHAL,
ABNER MIKVA, DAVID OBEY, PAUL FINDLEY CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JEWS, LEGISLATIVE MAIL, DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS, EXIT PERMITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770283-0110
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770889/aaaacxgv.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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TAGS: PINT, PINS, SY, US
To: DAMASCUS
Type: TE
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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